

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 2895 - SB 2892

March 13, 2012

SUMMARY OF BILL: Defines “best interest of the child” as it relates to juvenile court proceedings, foster care, child sexual abuse, and other general juvenile statutes. Identifies the relevant factors that must be evaluated when determining the best interest of the child.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- According to the Department of Children’s Services (DCS), this bill defines what is to be considered in determining a child’s best interest.
- According to DCS, requiring the Department to document that all factors have been considered could increase the length of stay for every child in care.
- It is estimated that any additional evaluation process or documentation will not result in a significant increase in the time necessary to determine the best interest of a child.
- Any increase in state expenditures is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/jdb

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